

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 17, with the following paragraph.

The present invention provides ~~a the flocculant mentioned in Claim 1,~~ wherein the above-mentioned silicon colloidal solution is made by dissolving a silicon-containing substance provided with acid solubility by mixing a silicon-containing substance with an alkaline substance and heat treating the result at a temperature below the melting temperature of the silicon-containing substance in an acid solvent.

Please replace the paragraph that immediately precedes the previous paragraph with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides ~~a the flocculent mentioned in Claim 2,~~ wherein the above-mentioned alkaline substance is made from calcium carbonate or lime.

Please replace the paragraph budging page 2 and 3 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides ~~the flocculants mentioned in Claims 2 and 3,~~ wherein the above-mentioned acid solvent is made from diluted hydrochloric acid.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 2 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides the flocculents ~~mentioned in each of Claims 2 to 4~~, wherein the above-mentioned acid solvent contains one, two, or more gelation suppressants selected from an acetic acid, ammonium acetate, and ammonium chloride group.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 6 with the following paragraph.

Also the present invention provides ~~the flocculents mentioned in each of Claims 2 to 5~~, wherein the above-mentioned silicon-containing substance contains iron or aluminum.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 8 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides ~~the flocculents~~ having a ~~mentioned in each of Claims 1 to 6~~, wherein pH value ~~[[is]]~~ between 2 and 3.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 19 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides the manufacturing method for a flocculent mentioned above ~~in Claim 8~~, wherein the above-mentioned alkaline substance is made from calcium carbonate or lime.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 22 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides the manufacturing methods for a flocculent ~~mentioned in Claims 8 and 9~~, wherein the above-mentioned acid solvent

generation means comprises a means for diluting hydrochloric acid to generate an acid solvent.

Please replace the paragraph bridging page 3 and 4 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides ~~the~~ manufacturing methods for a flocculent ~~mentioned in each of Claims 8 to 10~~, wherein the above-mentioned acid solvent generation means includes a means for mixing 1, 2, or more gelation suppressants selected from an acetic acid, ammonium acetate, and ammonium chloride group with the above-mentioned acid solution.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 5 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides the manufacturing methods for a flocculent ~~mentioned in each of Claims 8 to 11~~, wherein a filtering means is added for filtering the above-mentioned silicon colloidal solution to remove undissolved suspended matter.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 9 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides ~~the~~ manufacturing methods for a flocculent ~~mentioned in each of Claims 8 to 12~~, wherein an aggregating means is added for adding gypsum to the above-mentioned silicon colloidal solution to aggregate undissolved suspended matter.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 13 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides ~~the~~ manufacturing methods for a flocculent mentioned in each of Claims 8 to 13, wherein a pH value adjustment means is added for adding iron or aluminum to the above-mentioned silicon colloidal solution to adjust the pH value thereof.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 17 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides a flocculation method using the flocculents of the present invention ~~for the flocculent mentioned in each of Claims 1 to 7~~, wherein the flocculent ~~flocculation~~ is mixed in a suspension to flocculate suspended matter.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 20 with the following paragraph.

Also, the present invention provides the flocculation method just mentioned ~~in Claim 15~~, wherein a means is added to further mix an alkaline substance in the suspension.